

# **JOINT SUNSET REVIEW COMMITTEE**

## **2011-2012 RULES**

### **ESTABLISHMENT**

1. The Joint Sunset Review Committee (Committee) is created pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7 to identify and eliminate waste, duplication, and inefficiency in government agencies. The purpose of the Committee is to conduct a comprehensive analysis over 15 years, and on a periodic basis thereafter, of every eligible agency to determine if the agency is still necessary and cost effective.
2. The provisions of Rule 36 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly relating to investigating committees apply to the Committee, as well as other duties and responsibilities prescribed in the Joint Rules.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

3. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(e), the Committee is comprised of 10 Members of the Legislature.
  - a. The Senate Committee on Rules shall appoint five Members of the Senate to the Committee, not more than three of whom shall be Members of the same political party.
  - b. The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint five Members of the Assembly to the Committee, not more than three of whom shall be Members of the same political party.
  - c. Members shall be appointed within 15 days after the commencement of the regular session.
4. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(e), each Member of the Committee who is appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules or the Speaker of the Assembly shall serve during that Committee Member's term of office or until that Committee Member no longer is a Member of the Senate or the Assembly, whichever is applicable.
5. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(e), a vacancy on the Committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
6. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(e), three Assemblymembers and three Senators who are Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of Committee business.

## OFFICERS

7. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(f), the Officers of the Committee shall be a chairperson and a vice chairperson.
8. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(f), the chairperson of the Committee shall alternate every two years between a Member of the Senate and a Member of the Assembly, and the vice chairperson of the Committee shall be a member of the opposite house as the chairperson.
9. The chairperson shall preside at meetings and, when absent, the vice chairperson shall preside. The vice chairperson of this Committee shall act as chairperson in the case of a vacancy in the office of the chairperson, or whenever such authority is delegated by the chairperson.

## HEARINGS

10. The Committee shall meet upon call of the chairperson.
11. Notice of hearings and subject matter shall be given in the Daily File.
12. The chairperson of the Committee is authorized to appoint subcommittees and specify the membership and duties thereof, subject to ratification of the Joint Rules Committee.
13. Committees or subcommittees, by a majority vote, shall meet in executive session only as provided in Government Code Section 9029 and California Constitution Article IV, Section 7(c). Otherwise, all meetings shall be open and public.

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS

14. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(d), the Committee shall take public testimony and evaluate each eligible agency prior to the date the agency is scheduled to be repealed.
15. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(d), an eligible agency shall be eliminated unless the Legislature enacts a law to extend, consolidate, or reorganize the eligible agency.
  - a. No eligible agency shall be extended in perpetuity unless specifically exempted in statute.
  - b. The Committee may recommend that the Legislature extend the statutory sunset date for no more than one year to allow the Committee more time to evaluate the eligible agency.

16. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9147.7(c), each eligible agency scheduled for repeal shall submit to the Committee, on or before December 1 prior to the year it is set to be repealed, a complete agency report covering the entire period since last reviewed, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. The purpose and necessity of the agency.
  - b. A description of the agency budget, priorities, and job descriptions of employees of the agency.
  - c. Any programs and projects under the direction of the agency, and an economic analysis of each.
  - d. Measures of the success or failures of the agency and justifications for the metrics used to evaluate successes and failures.
  - e. Any recommendations of the agency for changes or reorganization in order to better fulfill its purpose.
17. The Committee shall make a report as to whether an agency should be terminated, continued, or whether its functions should be revised or consolidated with those of another agency. The Committee's report may include legislative proposals to carry out its recommendations. The Committee's report shall be public record.
18. The Committee shall monitor legislation affecting the funding or workload of the Joint Sunset Committee.

#### OTHER

19. The Committee's legislative records are maintained by the Committee consultant. Pursuant to Government Code Section 9080, the Committee consultant shall preserve the Committee's legislative records and lodge older legislative records with the State Archives.
20. These rules shall be changed by a majority vote of the Committee consistent with the Joint Rules and the Rules of the Assembly and Senate.